

Incentives

At its meeting on July 20, 2000, the Green Tier Advisory Committee suggested the following incentives to encourage participation in the Green Tier. The incentives are organized by the categories identified by Michael Crow in "Beyond Experiments," which appeared in the May/June 2000 issue of The Environmental Form.

Recognition

- Public recognition

Assistance

(none suggested)

Financial

- State financial assistance in the form of grants and loans to achieve the superior environmental performance that is specified in the agreement between the Green Tier entity and the department
- State pays in part or in whole for the monitoring required by the agreement between the Green Tier entity and the department
- Tax credits for pollution prevention expenditures including equipment, process modification and material substitution costs
- Limited liability from third-party legal suites
- Reduced insurance costs in recognition of lowered risk
- Lender preference/lower interest rates
- Recognition of past actions that have reduced emissions or discharges beyond the minimum legal requirement
- Acceptance of two-party agreements as a method of achieving the superior environmental performance that is specified in the agreement between the Green Tier entity and the department

Regulatory

- Expedited permitting including:
 - Assigning the highest priority to applications from qualified entities; and
 - Self permitting under the following restrictions:
 - All required public participation procedures are followed;
 - The permit specifies maximum rates of emissions, discharge or both; and
 - The permit specifies penalties for noncompliance

- Reductions in the administrative burden of environmental regulatory programs including:
 - Reduced monitoring; and
 - Less frequent reporting
- Fewer inspections
- Expedited regulatory approvals
- Compliance deadline flexibility
- Enforcement discretion including considering an entity's good faith participation in Green Tier as an indication of its good faith efforts to comply when seeking penalties
- Acceptance of alternate technologies or measures for those technologies prescribed by environmental regulations
- Nonattainment offset flexibility including credit for product substitution within a facility
- Company-wide and facility-wide emissions limits
- Recognition of reduced total life cycle costs